

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of June 12, 2009, and incorporates amendments to the two independent claims, 67 and 68, which were discussed in a telephonic interview on July 9, 2009, between Examiner Patel; Supervisory Patent Examiner Ashley; the undersigned attorney for the Applicant; and Andrew Docherty of the firm of Marks & Clerk LLP in Glasgow, United Kingdom, an attorney representing the Applicant. The Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to its attorneys by the Examiners during that interview.

Claim Objection

The June 12, 2009, Office Action, paragraph 2, objected to the punctuation of claims 67 and 68, and suggested changes which have been implemented by this reply.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. §102

As a result of the June 12, 2009, Office Action, independent claims 67 and 68 and dependent claims 2, 5, 19, 31, 32 and 34-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wang, U.S. Patent 6,308,421. As argued in the amendment submitted on March 9, 2009, there are very substantial differences between the multiple-use scissors of Wang and the cast cutter of the present invention, which would make Wang's scissors impossible to use as a cast cutter. In response to that amendment, Examiner Patel, in paragraph 7 of the Office Action of June 12, 2009, pointed out the need to define the spatial relationship between the cutting plane defined in claims 67 and 68 and the cutting members.

In the interview, it was agreed that adding the limitation that the cutting means are configured to cut "substantially perpendicularly through a cutting plane", and removing the limitations in claims 67 and 68 that the moveable portion is "pivotally mounted" and moves along an "arcuate" path toward the stationary portion would clearly distinguish the claimed

invention from the Wang device. Accordingly, these amendments to claims 67 and 68 have been made by the present response.

Since the only substantive rejection of the claims was one of anticipation by Wang, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendment brings the application into condition for allowance and such action is respectfully submitted.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 07-1180.

Dated: July 10, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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